Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The men and women who serve in the United States Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard have responded immediately and effectively whenever called upon to defend our nation's security at home or abroad, placing the national interests above their own; and,

Whereas, Today our men and women in uniform daily put their lives at risk, seeking to secure the blessings of freedom and liberty for oppressed people around the globe; and,

Whereas, In 1944, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the G.I. Bill into law, he observed that more than anything else America's servicemen and women wanted "the assurance of satisfactory employment" upon their return to civilian life; and,

Whereas, 1,952 South Dakota veterans were discharged from the armed services between March 2003 and June 2004; and,

Whereas, During the last 12 months, 5,500 South Dakota veterans registered for work, nearly 4,000 veterans entered the work force, and 55,000 services were provided by the South Dakota Department of Labor; and,

Whereas, Today's veterans desire the same economic opportunities as their forebears, and bring to the modern workplace the benefits of skills, education, leadership, maturity and dedication learned in military service; and,

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2004, as

HIRE A VETERAN MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighteenth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State